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June 21, 1999, and the benefit of U.S. Provisional application No. 60/140,448, filed June 23, 1999.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

#### Field of the Invention--

Page 1, before line 12, add the following new subheading;

#### --Description of the Related Art--

Page 4, before line 21, add the following new section heading:

#### --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Page 13, before line 14, add the following new section heading:

#### --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Page 13, before line 23, add the following new section heading:

#### --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--

### IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel now pending claims 1-21 without prejudice or disclaimer and substitute new claims 22-42 therefor as follows:

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

A<sup>2</sup>  
22. (New) An electric cable comprising at least one conductor and at least one insulating layer, said insulating layer comprising a substantially lead-free polymer composition comprising as base polymer material an elastomer terpolymer having the following composition:

- a) 50-90 moles percent of ethylene;
- b) 10-50 moles percent of an  $\alpha$ -olefin; and
- c) 0.16-5 moles percent of 5-vinyl-2-norbornene;